(b) whether Army had spent only fifteen per cent for arms purchase and Air Force and Navy 29-30 per cent of the allocation;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and whether responsibility for this state of affairs has been fixed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Government is aware of the news item published in the "Statesman" (Kolkata) dated 5th November 2001. During the current financial year (upto October 2001) the percentage expenditure of the Budgeted Estimates under the Capital Head for the Army is 18 percent, for the Navy is 38 percent and for the Air Force is 32 percent and under the Revenue Heads for the Army is 37 percent, for the Navy is 41 percent and for the Air Force is 36 percent.

Procurement is a continuous process. Several procurement proposals are in progress and are likely to materialise in due course.

Action against Military Officials mentioned in the Tehelka Tapes

311. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the action against military officers mentioned in the Tehelka tapes; and

(b) whether any further action being contemplated, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Army Court of Inquiry found some of the military officers blameworthy for their various acts of omission and commission in the defence equipment deal with a fictitious foreign firm as alleged by the Tehelka.com and recommended action against the officers.

Accordingly, the following action has been initiated as per the law and rules governing the army personnel:—

(i) Disciplinary action against one Major General, one Brigadier and one Colonel.

(ii) Administrative action against one Major General and one Lt. Colonel.

(iii) Censure action against one Major General.

MIG Crash near Suratgarh, Rajasthan

312. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM:
DR. KARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether another MIG aircraft crashed on September 17-18, 2001, near Suratgarh (Rajasthan), if so, the details of the accident and causes thereof;

(b) whether any other MIG has been involved in aircrashes thereafter, if so, the details of such accidents; and

(c) the number of aircrashes involving MIGs during the last three years, and the main causes thereof, and how far they were attributable to mechanical and technology failure?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. A MIG-21 aircraft crashed on 17th September, 2001 at Suratgarh and Captain of the aircraft Flt. Lt. A.A. Gadgil was fatally injured. A Court of Inquiry is in progress to investigate the cause of the accident.

(b) Yes, Sir, One more MIG-21 aircraft crashed on 26th September, 2001 at Pathankot due to engine failure in the air and the pilot ejected safely. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to investigate the accident.